CDBG-DR PROJECTS IN COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS

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U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) projects occurring in a Coastal High Hazard area, require direct

coordination/consultation with the Texas General Land Office (GLO)
Regulatory Oversight Division to ensure all components of the proposed project are permissible. Coastal High Hazard areas are subject to



high velocity waters, including but not limited to hurricane wave wash or tsunamis, as defined and mapped by FEMA as Zone V1-30, VE, or V.

Per the regulations outlined in 24 CFR 55, HUD funds may not be used in a Coastal High Hazard area if the project is a critical action. In addition, federal regulations prohibit new construction in these areas unless an exception listed in 24 CFR 55.12(c) applies or the proposed project is considered "functionally dependent" per 24 CFR 55.2(b)(6). For all other actions, financial assistance is prohibited unless the activity is an existing structure, an improvement of an existing structure, or reconstruction following a disaster in accordance with 24 CFR 55.1(c)(3)(i). Refer to 55.1(c)(3)(i) and (ii) for construction requirements for projects permitted in coastal high hazard areas.

Under certain circumstances, GLO may use CDBG-DR funds for certain new construction, reconstruction and existing construction improvements in a Coastal High Hazard Area.

Examples include, but are not limited, to:

- Functionally dependent use of land for dams, marinas, port facilities, and bridges.
 - These are not activities that are typically of concern for altering the floodplain and have their own regulations and requirements.
 - Water-front parks are actions than can be considered a functionally dependent use; however, are traditionally limited to green space with permeable surfaces/paths.
 - Permeable surfaces used within the project should be listed as part of the design and must be stamped for approval by the project engineer.
 - Materials used and considered permeable will be determined by the engineer(s).
- New construction (of functionally dependent actions) must be designed for location in a coastal high hazard area, which means elevation and/or floodproofing of all activities fulfill the requirements for Zone V/VE in 44 CFR 60.3(e) and, if applicable, meet the Minimum Property Standards for such construction in 24 CFR 200.926d(c)(4)(iii).
- ➤ Reconstruction and existing construction improvements not considered "functionally dependent" must fulfill all Zone V/VE requirements and adhere to 24 CFR 55.12(c)(3)



GLO strongly recommends contacting the Regulatory Oversight team to schedule a consultation meeting prior to completion of the Environmental Review Record (ERR).

Please send an email request to env.reviews@recovery.texas.gov with a subject line of "Technical Assistance Request: Coastal Construction".

For additional information please reach out to Angel Peltola at **Angel.Peltola.glo@recovery.texas.gov** or David Camarena at **David.Camarena.glo@recovery.texas.gov**.